# Marketing and Publicity Plan for the target community

Rashmi Rangan, Executive Director

DCRAC-LITC

## **Today's presentation**

- In developing a marketing and publicity plan for a program, the organization needs to understand the product, the audience, natural allies, and the budget.
- It is important to understand the message that the traditional adversaries present and position your campaign accordingly.

#### **The Product**

- What is your product?
- Any Competition?
- Does your community need your product?
- Will they buy it?
- Do you have a competitive edge?
- How will you use your competitive edge?

#### **The Service**

- Your competition provides your audience instant gratification.
- You are often a huge road block.
- Your services are free, your competition charges money.
   Presumption—you cannot deliver.
- Your competition treats customers first, you don't.

### **The Audience**

- What language do they speak?
- What is their economic, social, cultural, and literacy environment?
- Where do they get the information?
- How do they process the information?
- Is your audience a special needs audience?

## The Message

- What is your message?
- Do you have the right message?
- Most probably this message is one of sacrifices, patience, etc. If so, do you have partners who can help your audience?
- You are not alone—have you looked nationwide for creative ideas?

## The Messenger

- Is the messenger effective?
- When you ask your audience to be patient, can you provide them with long-term support?
- Is there a connection between the message and the messenger?

#### **The Medium**

- If you choose print, does your audience read? How would you tailor your writing for your audience?
- If you choose radio, what do they listen to?
- If you choose TV, will they watch?
- Does the message use the right medium in the right language?

## **The Competition**

- What influences your audience?
- Where is this influence coming from?
- How frequently is message rendered?
- Examples:
  - Store front presence for pay day loans
  - Radio ads for buy now pay later
  - TV ads for refinance your home even if you have no credit or bad credit

## **The Opportunity**

- Funding sources want an educated consumer.
- Internet makes research easier.
- Local Cable access is relatively easy.
- Talk shows are always terrific.
- Non-profits organize many outreach events.
- Partnerships are the key.

## The Challenge

- Recognize that your message asks your audience to endure hardships.
- Recognize your funding limitations.
- Recognize that you cannot afford to let down your constituency yet again.
- If you undertake outreach, it must be consistent—even when the results are disappointing—you are being tested.

#### **The Cost**

- A monthly TV program on leased access of one hour can cost about \$6,000 to \$10,000 in rental alone—if you air live!
- Print advertising is expensive!
- Radio slots are all filled out!
- One-on-one is time and money intensive, but has the greatest potential.

#### **The Alternatives**

- Word-of-mouth advertising—offer a great product and a superior service.
- Press Conferences—free publicity.
- Public Service Announcements.
- Media coverage of your activities.
- Outreach events.
- Partnerships.

#### **Other Outreach**

- Write articles in many publications.
- Guest at many radio shows.
- Participate in community events.
- Utilize all free advertizing.
- Offer a great service and receive terrific referrals.
- Build strong partners.

### The MONEY!!!!!!

- When detailing the project, must cover the following:
  - Outcomes
  - Measures
  - Inputs
  - Outputs
  - Costs
- Allocate 10% of the budget to outreach

#### **Contact Me**

- Rashmi Rangan
- Delaware Community Reinvestment Action Council, Inc.
- 601 N. Church Street
- Wilmington, DE 19801
- 877-825-0750 (Toll Free)
- 302-654-5046 (Fax)
- rashmi@dcrac.org
- www.dcrac.org

# A few DCRAC reference materials

- LITC brochure—English and Spanish
- Money Matters! A handbook—English and Spanish. Each handbook can be purchased for \$10.00
- You and the IRS—In English and Spanish. Each handbook can be purchased for \$10.00

#### **DCRAC** reference materials

- Video tapes—on various Tax topics—in English. Each videotape can be purchased for \$10.00.
- Video tapes—on various money issues such as budget, banking, etc. Some available in Spanish as well. Each videotape can be purchased for \$10.00.
- Newsletters—bilingual—on www.dcrac.org

- We know what our strategic partners offer.
- All our outreach includes promoting their products as well.
- Therefore, our partners promote us.

- Our audience is diverse because of our strong partnerships.
  - Homeless shelters—lower income population
  - Community Colleges and ESL classes—
     ESL clients
  - Churches that host Spanish services as well—ESL clients

- Programs are mission driven.
- Programs are unique—no competition from traditional partners, in fact, strong alliances with traditional partners.
- Strategic programs
  - Money Matters! since 1995
  - Television programs since 1999
  - Newsletters—folk send us their info.

- Message and messenger compatibility
  - Money Matters! a boring topic, but the messengers are dynamic.
  - Television host—engaging personality
  - Television guests—very knowledgeable and dynamic personalities
  - Newsletters—now in response to the audience, interactive

- We included outreach into our mission statement.
- This resulted in creation of a specific program internally.
- As a result, our budget was reorganized to ensure that outreach wasn't just an after-thought.